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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 09/940,849
Filed: August 29, 2001
Inventors: Jeffrey A. Trogolo et al
Title: BI-LAMINAR, HYALURONAN COATINGS
WITH SILVER-BASED ANTI-MICROBIAL PROPERTIES
Examiner: Carlos A. Azpuru
Art Unit: 1615
File No.: 281-37

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OCT 31 2003

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in response to the Official Action of October 3, 2003. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Attached are:

- 1) Amendment to the specification;
- 2) Amendments to the Claims; and
- 3) Remarks in response to the Official Action.

Applicants request entry of this Preliminary Amendment. A response to the requirement for restriction is given in the attached Remarks.

If the Examiner has questions, Applicants request that he telephone the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY... William H. EilbergDATE... 10/23/03

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